supply of power from West Bengal in August this year;

(b) if so, how much power was supplied by that State to other parts of the country; and

(c) what are the details of the distribution made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The power system of West Bengal is a constituent system of the Eastern Region and operates in parallel with the other constituents of the Region. Whenever there is a surplus of power in any of the power systems, the same is transferred to the neighbouring deficit systems for optimum utilisation of available power.

During August, 1987, a total of 38.6 MU was supplied by West Bengal system to OVC and Orissa as per details below:—

From West Bengal to	August, 1987 (Figs. in MU)
DVC	26.6
Orissa	12.0
TOTAL :	38.6

Power Generating Plants in West Bengal

160. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many power generating plants of the Central Electricity Authority are in operation in West Bengal, placewise;

(b) what is the capacity of those plants, plantwise; and

(c) how much money has been invested by the CEA, in those plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No power generating plant is operated by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Import of Essential Drugs

161. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the multi-national drug manufacturers have consistently found a way out of complying with the drug price control order by concentrating on non-essential but highly profit earning drugs forcing Government to import essential drugs by using up precious foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans to initiate action against such manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up Gas based Fertilizer Plant

162. SHRI NARAYAN KAR:

SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up a gas based fertilizer

plant in Tripura keeping in view the huge gas reserves in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this project is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) While availability of 1.0 MMCMD gas for a fertilizer plant in Tripura has been indicated, the Government does not at present support the idea of establishing a gas based fertilizer plant in Tripura in view of the projected consumption trends and the marketability of the product.

Gas Reserves in Tripura

163. SHRI NARAYAN KAR:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's plan to exploit huge gas reserves in Tripura both for gas based industries as well as for energy generation; and

(b) by when these projects will be completed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Exploration efforts have resulted in discovery of substantial natural gas reserves in four major structures in Tripura. ONGC have already committed 0.13 MMCMD of gas to Tripura State Electricity Board against which 0.06 to 0.065 MMCMD is already being supplied, 1.0 MMCMD has been committed for the proposed fertilizer plant in Tripura and 0.75 MMCMD for the proposed Power Plant at Rokhia, Commitment has also been made to supply 0.02 MMCMD of gas to Agartala Municipality for domestic supply through pipeline. Efforts are underway to locate more prospective users of gas.

Retail Outlets of Petroleum Products

164. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reserve certain retail outlets of petroleum products for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what percentage of retail outlets allotted so far has gone to the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) No, Sir, because a reservation of 25 per cent already exists in award of retail outlets for petroleum products for persons belonging to SC/ST categories.

(c) The details in this regard are being compiled, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Approval to Reliance Industries for PTA and LAB Project under MRTP Act

165. SHRI JASWANT SINGH:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reliance Industries have got an approval of MRTP Act for PTA and LAB project on the condition that the company will raise its own resources;

(b) whether Government are aware that the financial institution including LIC and UTI have provided leasing finance contravening the approval by the Government under MRTP Act; and